1873-74
(L.R).

Fk: No: 14
Serial No 1-7

Subi:- Contribution by the Ryots towards the Repair of certain Tanks

G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

1873-74
~~191~~.
(Land Rev.)

File No. 14

Serial Nos. 1-7

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-7.

M ~~Part~~ B for

SUBJECT.

Contribution by Ryots towards the repair of certain tanks

Indexed
D. Ranganadhan

W D 88—GPB—50,000—24-7-16

Para 64 of the Rayar Dn administration Report for ~~1874-75~~ 1875-76 —

The Jungles for which Khan List is paid appear to have a different history — Dn Heme upto have a right only to indigenous forest produce such as Cardamoms and pepper, and the toddy from the Bagni or palm, and at first sight there would seem to be no reason why Govt should not remit the rent and resume the right — If this were done, it would not follow that these forests should be handed over for Coffee Cultivation, for they are frequently of great direct as well as indirect advantage to the valuable Supari gardens situated in their neighbourhood, and their wholesale destruction would be most undesirable not only on this special ground, but for general climatic reasons —

34. Letter No. 1319 of 12 [illegible] June/76, from the Dy: Com[illegible]

35. This Office order No. 2980/1579 of 17th June/76 to the P.W.A. Postens.

36. Duplicate memo: of 17th June/76.

37. Letter No. 113 of 19th June/76 from the Comr Armoy

38. Letter No. 2240 of 29th June/76 from the Examiner

39. Chief Comrs Printed Pro: No. 2980/7101 of 23d June/76.

40. This Office order No. 3070/70 of 26th June/76 to the Comr Armoyposts &c others.

41. This Office docket No. 3635/594 of 10th July/76 to the Supts: Engrs for Irrigation.

42. This Office order No. 4117/43 of 22d July/76 to the Deputy Comr Polar &c.

43. Letter No. 896/626 of 28th July/76 from the Dy: Comr Ho with a duplicate memo: not signed by Head Clerks

44. Docket No. 2611 of 16th August/76, from the Supts: Engrs for Irrigation.

45. Chief Comrs Printed Pro: No. 7023/41176 of 17th O with draft.

46. This Office docket No. 11732/334 of 19th February 1877, from to the Supts: Engrs for Irrigation

47. Docket No. 745 of [illegible] 1877 from the Supts: Engrs for Irrigation.

48. Docket No. 3834 of [illegible] Nov 1877 from [illegible] Warren Rowe with Secty's ord letters which are remaining

49. Slip in the handwriting on it regarding cer[illegible] misplaced of

50. Requisition signed by the Manager of the Irrigation Supts: Engrs Office for the papers given from this file.

51. File of Slips on the subject of the papers missing in this Office.

Memo.

Memo of 13th May 1875 from the Secretary P.W. Department

With reference to the provision made in the Section XV of the Revised Survey Guarantee, Colonel Sankey enquired what amount could be set apart for roads during the year 1875-76 out of the sum of Rs: 82,706-11-8 at credit of Shimoga under the head "District Irrigation Fund"

2. The Sagar Commr. when consulted stated that 60,000 or 70,000 rupees may be made available, while the Deputy Commr. of Shimoga fixed the grant at Rs: 40,000 for the purpose I suggested in my memo No: 116 that the grant Rs: may be fixed at 50,000, but the Offg: Chief Commr. directed that a revised order should be prepared

as to the constitution of the Irrigation fund, so as to make some portion at least, available for other than irrigation works, and also for the repairs of tanks which have not been brought up to standard.

"Before submitting this I should be glad to know why in the Rules for administration of the District Irrigation Fund, those funds were to be limited to tanks brought up to standard, thus implying that the Irrigation department is in progress over every part of the country. This restriction will I fear defeat the intention of the fund, to a very considerable extent."

In reply to the query in the preceding para, I beg leave to state that the rules in question were based upon Sir Richard Meade's minute herewith

submitted, in which I presume he meant that the funds of the Irrigation cess should be spent only on tanks brought up to the required degree of safety and surrendered to the Ryots, the cost up to which period being met from the Irrigation Budget and contributions from Ryots -

Sir Richard Meade apparently entered into no discussion with any body and what I have stated above is a mere presumption - Since writing my memo No: I have given the subject careful consideration and am of conviction that under section 1 and 5 of the Notification in question and previous ones on the subject quoted in the margin, the District Irrigation Fund cannot be legitimately devoted to purposes other than those which

of Lewis Bros: No: 4469/297
" of 21st Septr 74.

are therein stated;
namely improvement of
Irrigation works. The
Chief Comrs order No:
3882 of 1st September 74
to permit the devotion of
this fund for opening
communication in
the Inland talukas
in which no Irrigation
works exist; but under
this casual permission
we cannot permit the
appropriation of this
fund in the manner
it is indented upon
by the Chief Engineer.
I would therefore
recommend that
until we know from
the Survey Commission
what the allotment
for Local funds is
made in the several
Inland talukas we
should not comply
with the present
requisition -

Secy. Revenue XX

Shamsya had at. Credit on the 1st. May 1876. from Irrigation Cess.

£ 96.075—

Expenditure from Distrit. Funds during this Year £ 1.05.670 —.

The whole amount has been provided for.

The Irrigation Cess in this Distrit is Abkhareuly Govt.

Approved.

9/6/1876

It is not understood from the above what is the actual unexpended balance of each of the Irrigation Cess funds in Shamsya Dist on the 1st April 1876.—*

Orders have been passed regarding the last pay bills, but it is not clear from the Survey Commr's letter whether the amt. set apart from the Irrigation Cess for application to Irrigation Cess funds.

These orders will

1876-77 Rs. for 76-77 Grant

*X. has the appeal of Dumnisbury the amt. of that fund, and I beg it may be ascertained what the balance is on 1st April 1876, after meeting certain outlay from that fund since the commencement last year as a Special case

£ 15/6

(2) The sum as ★ below

) the outlay has been debited to

★ £ 95.358- Shamsya Irrigation Cess Fund. Dr. to Irrigation Cess Fund Cr. being 96 Cess collections 30000 Rs. Less Rs. 3000 Cess collections accumulated in 1875-76 for purposes of Irrigation and in the whole of this area to be suspended until 1876-77 — please send the Cess collections for September 1875 to

From the statement appended to para 2 of the Chief Commr proceedings (printed) No 8603, dd 11th Feb 1876, 233 it will be seen that the sum of Rs 3000 was allotted to the Shimoga Valley alone — and not to the whole Dist —

The irrigation Cess fund appears to have accumulated since 1868. Vide Proceedings of Comee published in the Mysore Gazette supplement dd 11 April 1868 — The balance which remained on 31st March 1875 × was Rs ——— 82706. 11. 8. Add collections of 1875/76 29875. 13. 7

Total Rs 112582. 9. 3

× Vide Rev & Ch Comm's No 918 dd 5 May 1875.

Out of the above sum Rs 650 was sanctioned for expenditure in General works and Rs 10000 for relief works.

Under § 4 of the rules prescribed for the guidance of Distt Committees published at page 144 of the Govt Gazette of 7th May 1875, Estimates of expenditure are now to be prepared & submitted in the manner prescribed for ordinary Local Funds. This has not been done. The Commr of Dhera Ismail Khan may be requested

This may be done by

to do so at once.

The duplicate items which were submitted by Capt Mackenzie for the years ending appear to have been prepared so far back as May 1875 when the preparation of the ~~Local~~ District Fund Budgets was entrusted to the Chief Engr.

E. P. Thwaites
17/6/76

Seen. Leaders 17/6/76
Adm by 17/6

Leaf
9/
Shown to Insp Genl
Examd

List of papers in the file regarding the maintenance of Irrigation Tanks in Mysore.

———"———

1. Govt of India P.W.D. Printed Pro: No 129 d/ 9/ March 1870.
2. Chief Comm's Printed Proceedings No 4312/69 d/ 3d Nov with draft.
3. No 548/183 d/ 10th Decr/73, from the Comm'r Ashtagram Do.
4. No 493/165 d/ 27th Decr/73 from the Comm'r Nagar Do.
5. This Office docket No 5513/90 d/ 7th January/1874 to the Comm'r of Kaniyambady & Nagar Do.
6. No 197 d/ 20th January/1874 from the Comm'r Kaniyambady Do with 2 enclosure memos No 861. and d/ 30/1/
7. Chief Comm's Printed Pro: No 1340/R19 d/ 23rd May 1874.
8. No 101/38 d/ 7th June 1874 from the Comm'r Nagar Do
9. No 132/46 d/ 19th —do— from —do— —do—
10. This Office letter No 2633/R412 d/ 8th July/74 to the Comm'r
11. Chief Comm's Printed Pro: No 4469/R297 d/ 21st Sept 187
12. This Office letter No 5481/347 d/ 28th Octr 1874. to the Survey and Settlement Comm'r of Mysore.
13. Chief Comm's Printed Pro: No 918/R29 d/ 5th May 1875.

Mysore Gazette d/ 22nd May 1875.

15. This Office order No 1834/R5 d/ 2nd June 1875 to the Comm'r Nagar Do.
16. No 128/31 d/ 9th June 1875 from the Comm'r Nagar

Irrigation Dept: Engr's Endorsement d/ 21st June 1875 transmitting to this Office the undermentioned papers for disposal —

1. Printed Circular Memorandum No 330/2179 d/ 5th Septem from the Under Secty: to the Chief Comm'r Irrigation Bra to the Comm'rs of Dwd &c &c.
2. Chief Comm's Printed Pro: No 4327 d/ 16th Sept 1874.
3. Copy of Letter No 52/34 d/ 8th April 1875 from the Dy Supt Co

5. Docket No. 297 of 26th April 75 from the Exec Engr Tanks &c to the Supt: Insp for Irrigation

6. Memo: of 4th June 75 drawn up by Major Chrystie for the Chief Commr's orders.

Demi Offl note of 28th June 1875 from Col: Sankey to Major Clarke and Secretary's note to Draftsm of the same date together with draftsm memo: No. 404 and a Rough draft order of 24th August 76.

9. Letter No. 562/2617 of 7th September 75 from the Under Secretary to the Chief Commr, Irrigation Branch.

10. This Office Docket No. 5364/307 of 30th September 1875 to the Commr Nagar &c.

11. Docket No. 636/2910 of 5th October 75 from the Under Secretary to the Chief Commr of Mysore for Irrigation with a copy of a Statement and an extract from a Statement

12. Letter No. 403/78 of 8th October 1875 from the Commr Nagar &c

13. Chief Commr Printed Pro: No. 6241/754 of 1st Novr 1875.

14. Letter No. 212/1181 of 8th April 1876 from the Under Secretary to the Chief Commr Irrigation Branch with draftsm memos Nos 160 & 299; draft Rules regarding upkeep of Inam-dars' Tanks and a draft order ~~&c~~ for Press

15. Docket No. 1348 of 26th April 1876 from the Supt: Insp for Irrig with Nos II Tank &c Exec: Insp's No. 134 of 24th April, to the Supt: Insp for Irrigation & Statement in original

16. Docket No. 35 of 12th May 1876 from the Commr Nundydroog to the Under Secty: in the Irrigation Branch.

17. Letter No. 94 of 22nd May 1876 from the Commr Nundydroog &c with a Statement.

18. This Office order No. 1773/3 of 30th May 1876 to the Commr Nundydroog &c.

19. —— do —— No. 1948/6 of 2nd June 76 to the Supt: Insp for Irrigation.

20. Docket No. 1788 of 6th June 76 from the Supt: Insp for

Letter No. 1894 of 6th June 76 from the Examiner P.W.

Docket No. 1792 of 7th June 76 from the Supt: Insp for Irrig

21. This Office order No. 2227/22 of 8th June 76 to the Commr Nundydroog Division.

budget can share has been allotted to them.

5. For some years to come the district Fund will not be available in any part of the Province except Chikkaroog, as the Survey parties are not at work in the same localities as the Irrigation department, save Chikkaroo and a small portion of the Bangalore taluk in the Kadgood series, which circumstance was lately brought to the notice of the Chief Commissioner.

6. The provision made in the Irrigation budget under the head Repairs agricultural having already run short on account of heavy monsoon last year, it was supplemented by a transfer of Rs. 15000 from Channel Repairs and it therefore impossible to give an extra grant from Provincial funds and

for the Shimoga tanks
for which it is needed.
The grant already made
for the purpose is more
than 6 times what was
spent in 1873-74.
7. It will be observed
~~from~~ from the statement
given at page 31 of letter
No: 67-1 of 4th March 1871
already quoted that in
the Shimoga district the
Revenue of the Fund at
one anna in the Rupee
on the wet and garden
assessment, which is
Rs: 7,77,269, will not
fall far short of 50,000 Rs. of
8. Colonel Sankey therein
observed that the voluminous
correspondence which has
taken place in his office
on the subject of the Irrigation
cess, was not under consideration
when the Notification No: 62
of the 7th May 1875 was
issued, and that to the
best of his judgment it
would be preferable while
meeting the difficulties

pointed out by Major Murphy,
to leave the decision as
to the precise application
of the case to Sir Richard Meade

9. The Offg: Chief Commr.
ordered that the points
raised by Major Murphy
should be referred to the
General Department,
and that the papers
quoted by Colonel Sankey
should be mentioned
in the reference -

It would appear
that this memo was
prepared and submitted
to the late Head Assistant
in July 1875, but he directed
that Sir Richard Meade's
notes on this subject should
be put up. The search
made for the Notes in
question has been in-
effectual. Hence the delay
in disposing of this reference

P. 90

No. 404. Memo for orders

The Notification of
7th May 1875 referred to by
Major Chrystie is here-
=with submitted. It lays
down rules for the admi-
=nistration of the District
Irrigation Fund. Sub-Clause
2 and 3 of Rule III provide
that the Fund shall be
available "for the repair
of the masonry works of
such tanks as have been
brought up to standard
and made over to the Ryot
for up-keep, and for the
provision of grants in spe-
=cial and exceptional case
in aid of such other in-
=dispensable repairs which
tanks thus brought up t
standard may need in excep
of the ryots' ability to exec
=ute the repairs."

2. These clauses limit the expenditure of the Irrigation Fund to those tanks which have been brought up to standard and made over to ryots, and it is to this limitation that the Superintending Engineer takes exception. He suggests a modification of the rule so as to admit of the Irrigation Fund being spent also upon tanks not brought up to standard.

3. On this point I beg to submit that Rule V, of the above said notification provides that District Committees shall be competent to apply any portion of the sums set apart for expenditure in one Taluk to any general purpose connected with the Irrigation works of the District, to which the District Committee may be of opinion that the Fund of each Taluk should be required to

to contribute."

4. Under this proviso, the Superintending Engineer may apply to the District Committee for a grant-in-aid from the Irrigation fund for the repairs of tanks other than those brought up to standard, whenever he thinks it necessary to do so, and the Committee may take such application into consideration, and submit proposals to this Office, thro' the Commissioner of the Division, for the assignments being made accordingly. It appears to me therefore that no modification of the terms of the Notification of 7th May 1876 is necessary.

5. As regards the Proposed utilization of the District Irrigation Fund, for other than Irrigation works, e.g. roads, buildings &c., I beg to submit that it is not desirable to make any spe-

Vide para 5 of the Secretary's note of 28th June 1876.

specific provision on this point in the Rules published in the Notification of 7th May 1875. Roads and their repairs are altogether unconnected with the purposes for which the Irrigation cess ~~is levied~~ was intended, and for which it should properly be applied, and only in exceptional cases, such as the ~~case~~ of the Malnad Taluks, where artificial irrigation works are few and the means of communication wretched, can a portion of the Irrigation fund be made available, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, for purposes other than those connected with Irrigation. Rule XV of the revised Survey Rearantee, published in Notification No. 341 of 11th February 1875, provides for the case of the Malnad Taluks as follows:—

Note.

In this office letter No. 4772 of 20th April 1874 to the Commr. of Nagar Divn., it was stated that "In Talukes such as the Malnad, where few irrigation works exist requiring no such repair or improvement, but where roads are urgently needed and are very costly in their construction, the proceeds of the cess, after the requirements of the irrigation works have been duly provided for, as above, may be applied to aid in carrying out the works decided on by the Local Boards, Assessments from the irrigation cess should be the first resource. Grants-in-aid to the roads and should be applied, as far as possible, to special roads which will benefit most the contributors to the cess, and on application for the Collector, with the grounds thereof, to be submitted to this office, each case on its merits, for the Commissioner's sanction."

"XV In the Malvad Taluks, the sum set a-part to form the Irri-gation Fund will be limited to such portion of the actual equivalent of the original extra Cess as may appear to be fairly needed for the pur-pose for which the maintenance of a Dis-trict Irrigation Fund is proposed; and any por-tion of the sum so set apart that cannot be advantageously utilized for such purpose may, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, be allotted as a grant-in-aid to the ordinary Local fund of the Taluk appli-cable to General Improve-ments."

6. The above Rule seems to provide sufficiently for

Grants

grants-in-aid being made from the Irrigation Fund for local Improvements, generally in the Malnad Talukes, and I think no further orders are required on this point.

7. The orders contained in para 5 (1) of the Secretary's note of the 28th June 1875, about the sum of Rs. 40,000 which the Deputy Commr of Shimoga stated could be allotted from the Irrigation Fund of his district for ordinary Local Fund purposes for 1875-76, have not been carried out as yet, and I would suggest that no action should now be taken in the matter, as the year 1875-76 has expired without any allotment of the Fund proposed being made.

8. With reference to the enquiry made in para 6 of the Secretary's Memorandum of 28th June 1875, I beg to state that

Memo.

Memo dated 28th June 75
from the Superintending
Engineer of Irrigation.

In accordance with the
orders passed by the Offg:
Chief Commissioner in the
Public Works department
the Superintending Engineer
transfers, for disposal in the
General department, papers
connected with the Irrigation
District Fund.

2. Major Chapple enquired
whether for the following
reasons some modification
of the Rules laid down in
the Notification No: 62 of 7th
May 1875 was not required

3. In the Notification above
referred to, it is laid down
that the District Irrigation
Fund should be spent
chiefly upon the tanks
that have been brought
up to standard and made
over to the Ryots for upkeep
and upon grants-in-aid.

towards the repairs of channels maintained by the Irrigation Department.

4. In Chitaldroog which has already been surveyed and settled, the money can be spent upon the objects laid down in the Notification; but in Shimoga & Kadur, though a large portion of taluks has been settled, the fund could not be spent on Irrigation works, as it is not proposed to deal with tanks in these Districts serially, and as no tanks are being made over to us for upkeep. The fund has consequently accumulated, and in Shimoga alone a sum of Rs: 82,706 1/8 is available from this source. The tanks in these Districts being in the most wretched condition, as much money as the Irrigation

+ para 11 of letter no: 67-1 of 4th March 71 (page 29), to Govt of India.

Memorandum.

1. In March last the Ryots of the Bataumangala Taluk addressed a petition to the Chief Commissr. to the Effect that the Dy Commissr. of the District (Kolar) was attaching their property for non-payment of a Contribution for the repairs of a tank, & prayed for exemption from its payment. This petition was however rejected as the petitioners had agreed to pay the Contribution. It was at this time that, at the suggestion of Mr. Wellesley the Nundidroogdroog Commr. was called upon to report "on the whole subject of these "Contributions stating the "amount of them & the "process by which the "Ryots are induced to provide "them".

So the Dy. Commissr. reports.

+ This office No. 599 of 5 Augt. 13.

2. The Nundi Commissr. forwarded Copies of letters, on the subject, from his three Deputies, adding his opinion thereto.

3. Bangalore Deputy + states that in each case the Ryots Contribute according to their

+ This office No. 177 of 29 Augt. 13 to the Commissr.

Circumstances & when the work was particularly desired they paid 1/3rd. of the Estimated Cost, but more frequently the proportion borne by them was one fourth, or less, & even 1/8th. With regard to the process of obtaining their promise to Contribute, he states that the necessity of the works & their (ryots) own interests in the same were laid before them & then they (ryots) were prevailed upon to promise to bear their quota of the expense. When this course did not succeed the Dy. Commr. determined what he Considered a fair Amount of Contribution, & the ryots were called upon to pay; if they refused, it was recovered as a revenue balance. Tanks being numerous & scattered over the Country & being beneficial to ryots & to their Cattle, the Dy. Commr. thought it fair that they should help in their repairs. Many of the tanks, in the Dist. being small, & beyond proportion to the revenue derived from the lands under them the Dy. Commr. thought that they must have anciently been Constructed by the Village Community

themselves, who in the course of time had either lost sight of or escaped their responsibility to keep up the same.

+ No. 1157 of 21 May, 73 to the Comm.

4. Kolar Deputy – stated that the greater number of the tanks must have been originally constructed by the founders of the villages & had for this supporting the same grounds wh. the Bangalore Dy. had – & that the policy pursued by Purniah depriving the Patails of their influence & position in their villages tended to diminish the interest they took in such works before. He stated that he first tried Mr. Bowring's system wh. was "to effect the restoration of tanks "by means of the villagers, the "Govt. contributing towards "the work in rateable proportion to the prospective "remuneration of each project. This system did not answer well, as it was found difficult to get the absent landholders & the influential & non-agricultural classes to contribute their share of the labor, like the poor & ignorant ryots. Another measure

was then adopted, that
of obtaining Contributions in
Cash from the Ryots instead
of giving them a grant-in-
-aid, and having the work
Executed under the Super-
-vision of Govt Officers.
With reference to the principle
adopted for Collecting these
Contributions, he states that
at first an Estimate, providing
for the full work, was
prepared & then the rateable
proportion of the Amount
of Contribution to be paid by
the Ryots was fixed according
to the period within which
the outlay could be recouped.
This done, the Amount each
Ryot had to pay was apportioned
according to the Extent of his
holding under the tank.
It was stated that this System
worked Exceedingly well.
5. Toomkoor Deputy-State No: 165 dt 6 June 1876 Bunyr.
that on account of the number
of tanks requiring repairs
those wh: the Ryots promised to
help in repairing were first
taken in hand- the Contribution
being 1/4th of the Estimated Cost; wh:
was paid in Money or in Labor
at the pleasure of the Ryots.

2/

Sir No: G4807/12 June 78.

6. The Mundi Commissr. (then Mr. Ricketts), states that such works where the ryots promised Contributions either in money or labor were first taken in hand, as well as those good projects which ~~could~~ speedily recoup the outlay in an increased revenue. With regard to the Contributions he states that they were not fixed on any particular scale, but that they varied from 1/3, 1/4 to 1/8 of the total estimate. The population of the village and its condition whether well or ill to do, were taken into Consideration when fixing the amount of Contribution. When disputes arose & outsiders attempted to evade their responsibilities, their quota of the work was then carried out by said labor & recovered from the defaulters as a revenue demand. Again, as regards Chain tanks the ryots, in some cases, delayed their portion of the Earth-work, so that the Irrigation Dept. had to carry it out and then look to the Revenue Dept. for

repayment by the ryots. To obviate this Mr. Ricketts suggested a principle which was to have the ryots "do all the turfing & contribute in cash say from 1/8 to 1/10 of the estimate" &. Certain remarks were then passed by the Chief Commissr. in which the work was divided into two classes, viz:- (1), "Ordinary "repairs to the Earth-work of tank "bunds, for wh: the ryots have been "always theoretically responsible, "where there is no Kodagi inam for "the Conservancy of the tank; & (2) the "work necessary for the restoration "of a ruined tank or one out "of use". It was held that the ryots were fairly responsible for the former; it being the duty of the Commissr. to arrange for their repairs & to require all ryots Concerned to aid in their being carried out, either by labor or contributions. With regard to the latter it was considered essential "that the ryots Concerned shall not merely agree to the work, but shall formally bind themselves to provide the service or money required for its execution". It was further considered that every Community

Vide Proceedings No: 69 G
dt 3. Feb: 93

should be bound by the acts of a reasonable majority of its members, in respect of the restoration of a tank common to all;- and where 2/3 or 3/4th of the ryots agreed to contribute, the minority should be required to assent likewise.

8. The Commissioners of the Bds. were then requested to give their careful consideration to the subject of the above remarks & favor the Ch: Commissr. with their views thereon.

+ Vide Boundings Quoted above -

9. Nundidroog Commissr. (Major Hill) states that in dealing with Case No. (1) some doubt is felt as to the exact parties embraced by the term "Ryots" & divides the parties into 5 Classes viz (a) Brahmin Pattadars, who do not labor themselves, (b). Ryots who are the holders & Cultivators, (c) Subtenants of Brahmin land holders, village Servants & day labourers, (d) Ryots including Brahmins holding dry lands only, and (e) Weavers, Shepherds & other Classes not engaged in Cultivation. As they are all interested in the maintenance of the village tank & as unless the services of all are made available the duty required

+ His No: 197 G J 20 January 74

* Vide Para 7

+ holding land under the tank

+ of lands under the tank

cannot well be performed, and as there is also good reason to believe that the poor are too often forced to bear the whole burden while the rich & independent escape, Major Hill recommends, as once he did while at Bajau, that only a week's labor in the year should be demanded from each village & holder of land attached to the village & tank & the upkeep of the tank, & that it should be compulsory on the non labouring classes to pay for labor to the extent of the work allotted to them. If there be any defaulter the amount will be recovered as a revenue demand. In the cases of tanks the repairs for wh: will not be undertaken otherwise than for the liberal contributions from ryots, he suggests that the Inamdar, Puttadar, & Buttayee coolumdar under the tank should be required to pay 2/3 rds of the cost, the remaining being borne by the villagers. As proposed by the Chief Commr he thinks it will have to be authoritatively laid down that the whole of the villagers, dependant on a tank, will be bound by the

Consent of the majority to pay the contribution. Where ryots* promise to execute a considerable quantity of earth-work to the tank no further demand for contribution shall be made. Major Hill urges the desirability of Abolishing in the Settled Talooks the levy of the One Anna irrigation cess in the rupee, on the ground of its being opposed to the principle of holding the ryots answerable for the up-keep of tanks. He thinks that it is not fair to call upon the Ryots who pay the irrigation cess, to further contribute towards the repairs to tanks. Major Hill thinks it a question as to how far contributions from Ryots of Inam villages, can be demanded & says that the levy of irrigation cess has relieved the Inamdars, Jodi-dars, & Kayamgootadars from of their responsibility to maintain their tanks. He thinks that the Sirkar ryots as well as those of the Inam villages+ should be treated alike. & believes that some ruling is needed for future guidance in the matter.

10. Astapram Commissioner+ thinks that tho' the principle of binding the villagers by the acts of the

* who he says are in great-hos: in the Astapram Division.

+ his No. 548 dt 10 Dec: 73.
183

reasonable majority to contribute
is sound in theory, it practically
entails hardship on the poorest
class, who, while willing to enter
into engagements, are unable
to fulfill the same. As it is
difficult to lay down definite
rules in all such cases, he thinks
that each case may be dealt
with by the Dy: Commrs on its merits,
submitting the unusual or
important ones for orders by the
higher authorities. He states that
the rules in force regarding Earth
work & tank bunds, are clear
& can be acted on without practical
difficulty. Col: Clerk forwards
copy of his letter, on the subject, + No: 1710 of 10 Dec: 98.
addressed to the Under Secy: Irrigation
Dept. in wh: he says that to
hold the Dy: Commrs responsible
for the collection of contribution
promised by the Ryots, would be involving
the Revl officers in considerable
embarrassment as the Ryots
cannot be made to understand
that Engagements like these
should bind him & be enforced.
He also thinks that to enforce
payment this way would be working
hardship on the poor Ryots, upon
whom the welfare of the Country
depends. & who are already

that Sir Richard Meade's original Minutes on which the Rules published in the Notification of 7th May 75 were drafted, are not now forthcoming in the Office; and the object with which the framers of the original rules limited the Expenditure out of the Irrigation Cess Fund to works relating to Tanks brought up to standard, cannot be ascertained.

E. P. Thurnbull
9/8/76

X. Connected with the Bezwada Works of the Buckingham Canal is the question of the Funds of any particular Taluk may be expended on Contingencies. I see no other solution of the difficulty

11/8

I concur in the above and think may be substituted in a draft to be submitted for my approval but I should be inclined even to do away with the Special Cess as the Irrigation Cess was levied

The Objection of the Collector of 7 May 1875 are also to be found on the file.

The question raised by the Collector of Nellore is a different one — Owing to the terms of the Notification of 7 May 75 which restricts the Expenditure of the Irrigation Cess Fund, as fixed at the Settlement, to the repair of tanks already brought to Standard, may Anicuts be counted as tanks. In respect of the Tanks in the Sriharikota Island which have been taken up by the Irrigation Dept, in order to bring them to Standard, the Irrigation Fund cannot be expended because the Tanks are entirely useless as suggested however in view to Rule V 3 above, the terms of Notification of 7 May 75 admit of a wide interpretation and subject to the conditions laid down, it might be competent to the Govt Committee to apply the Fund or the portion of it to any General purpose

the raised which specially precludes the application of the money to irrigation works of the character of which have not been brought up to standard. I would be prepared the modification of the original instruction to authorize the application of the proceeds of the Loan on all irrigation works which have been brought up to standard as well as I think that the Expenditure on such works would be in all respects more legitimate than applying the funds as has already been authorized by original instructions as I understand to the other Loan funds of the District for roads and other local purposes

16.8.76

4./

+ Rs: 6/4 & 1/8 Dec/3

+ this same being collected before work is commenced

Mr. Chitaldroog Dy. Collr. states that in cases of ordinary repairs the ryots contribute the cost of Earth work either by labor or in cash, in other cases they give 1/4 of the Estimate. In cases where only Stone work is required ryots refuse to bear a portion of the cost. This Offr. says that the plan of having the ryots to do the ordinary Earth work repairs yearly to their tanks, is in force in this Dist. Tanks in complete repair will, he thinks, be put in order by the Irrigation Dept & made over to the ryots for upkeep. Steps are being taken to hand over as many tanks as are in fair order to ryots for upkeep. He says, ruined tanks are given over to the Irrigation Offr. who prepare Estimates for the work & the ryots are asked to state what they will contribute. He considers that from 1/6 to 1/4 is the proper proportion to be borne by the ryots & to exact more would press hard on them.

W.K.V 30.1.74

No 861.

Memorandum

Several petitions have been received from the Bangalore and Kolar Districts in which the Ryots have complained against the destraint and sale of their property for realizations of contributions for repairs of tanks, which they say they had not agreed to nor able to pay. It is indeed desirable that the Ryot should be made to understand that he is responsible for the safety of the tanks of his village and that it is his interest to have them in an efficient state of order. It may however be said that it is somewhat hard to visit him at once with the sin of neglect of his ancestors and make him contribute to the cost of repairs in addition to the payment

payment of the full net assessment and the Irrigation cess. At the same time it should not be omitted to notice that in some cases the rates demanded were high and that coercive process had to be adopted for their collection.

In the new Irrigation scheme it is understood that the Govt. of India have sanctioned that tanks should be brought to a certain degree of safety at the cost of the state before the future upkeep is relinquished into the hands of Ryots. Such being the case, unless there is any impracticability or great delay in giving effect to the new scheme, or unless it is apprehended that the tank cannot stand the season with ordinary repairs, there seems hardly any necessity for demanding heavy contributions.

The following suggestions may,

may, if approved, be converted into a few simple rules for the guidance of the local officers.

I. When a tank is in a series and whether the cultivation under it justifies the outlay required in bringing it to a standard of safety or not, its restoration should be undertaken at the Govt. cost and the future upkeep left to the Ryots holding lands under its Irrigation.

II. When tanks are not in a series, they should likewise be restored or brought to the required state of safety at the cost of Govt. the future upkeep being left to the villagers. If the present or prospective revenue under tanks of this description does not justify the outlay required for bringing them into a state of safety, that is to say that there is no chance of the expenditure being re-

-covered

-covered within a reasonable
time, the project may be a-
-bandoned if the Ryots do
not choose to come forward
to contribute labor or money
in aid of the Govt. assignment
for its restoration. But re-
-missions of assessment
wholly or partly upon land
under occupancy for failure
of crop, &c. from insufficient
irrigation should not be
granted as this would in-
-duce them to withhold con-
-tributions and not come
forward to aid Government
in the restoration of their
tanks to an efficient con-
-dition.

In cases of breached
tanks under which there
is no cultivation, and no
revenue derived, the Govt.
may, if there is a prospect
of increase to the revenue
and re-imbursement of
the cost within a reasonable
time undertake to restore
them,

them. Otherwise they may be left to be restored by private enterprize under the provisions of the existing rules noted in the margin, with the full assurance that at the present Survey Settlement or at the ensuing lease the revision and enhancement will be made with reference to the general rise of the price of agricultural produce and not with reference to the improvements effected in the shape of works of irrigation, &c constructed by the Ryot.

When contributions are promised in money, the work should not be commenced before it is collected Whether it is in money or labor, there should be an agreement signed by at least one half of the number of Ryots holding lands under the tank or persons who pay a revenue to Govt not less than one half of the

× Circular No 227 dated 31st March 1863.
Cir. 366 dated 23rd Dec 71.

I am not in favor of grants under the Rule of 1863 at per cent, as there may have been much complication in some instances

should be 3/4

the revenue.

The contributions should be confined to holders of Govt. or Inam land under the tank and not indiscriminately to all the non-agricultural residents on the ground of their using the water of the tank for themselves or for their cattle. In the case of an emergency, such as the stopping of a breach caused by flood, &c. all the residents can be pressed for labor.

If the foregoing views are approved, I shall draft and submit a set of rules for publication in the Gazette.

B. S. [illegible]
29/3/74

Keep
Prepare a Statement shewing (i) Amount sanctioned by Govt. for tanks (ii) Amount of Contributions by Ryots (iii) Amount actually Expended in Each District during the Year. 12-73.
6-4-74

Quite concur in this, and it might be embodied in the Order

D.G.

The statement called for is herewith submitted from which it will be observed that out of Rs 106367 sanctioned for repairs of tanks from Imperial funds only Rs 82990 have been spent and the balance of Rs 23377 have been allowed to lapse unutilized - This latter amount nearly as much as the is ~~considerable~~ nearly the sum of Rs 28070 which is the aggregate total that was realized in 1872/73 under the head of Contributions in money and estimated value of labour executed by the Ryots.

Please see side marked B. Cols 3 & 5.

Col 14.

Cols 6 and 13.

Turning again to statement A it will be observed that the lapsed amounts for 3 years from the unappropriated Budget provision are greater than

the value of the contri-
butions promised both
in money and labour
by the Ryots as shown
by a comparison of the
figures in Cols 9 and 18.
If collect. the sum hereby
set apart for repair of
tanks from Imperial funds have
not utilised in time and
fully these would hereby be
made necessary for adoption
of coercive process for re-
alization of contributions
such as the memorials re-
cently sent up to the Chief
Secretary set forth as
having never been promised
by the Ryots and that
they are too poor to bear
the charge -

Until the tanks are brought
up to that degree of effici-

subjects to much inconvenience by the introduction of various measures (in three years!) such as the collection of interest on kists overdue, levy of fees on notices & of local cesses - maintenance of tanks, topes, avenue & village roads - restrictions in forest matters, & supply of labor b/t the D.P.W.S & Survey Dept.

11. Nagar Commissr (Mr Ricketts) thinks that no rules are necessary in cases of ordinary repairs to tanks as the ryots gradually acknowledge their responsibility in this respect, and as when the tanks are brought up to standard & made over to the Ryots for upkeep the recently promulgated rules will ensure all that is requisite for such upkeep. In cases of tanks wh: have been fully repaired he thinks that it sd be compulsory on the ryots to undertake the fore- & rear slope turfing & to contribute in addition 1/10 or 1/16th of the Estimate, either in Cash or Labor. No difficulty is found where the work is carried by the Rev: Dept: It is only felt where tanks are being brought up to Standard by the Irrigation Dept - in such cases

× Rev. 493/165 d/27 Dec 73.

† the Irrigation Dept.

Ryots shd be compelled to do all the
front & rear turfing & contribute
1/8 or 1/16 of the total cost, the Dy:
Commissr having the option of reducing
the amount in cases of poverty
& the like, and the Engineer Officers
Consulting the interests of the
Ryots as much as possible. Work
such as forming a Stop tank
shd be met solely from funds of
the Irrigation Dept. He thinks
it will, that the Ryots shd be
made to understand that they must
Contribute, rather than ask for
voluntary Contributions. He
suggests that those likely to pro-
-mising Contributions be exe-
-cuted on Stamp papers &
the amount be charged to the
Estimate. Mr Ricketts forwards
Copies of Communications from
his 3 Deputies.—

12. Cadoor Deputy says that the orders proposed to be issued are well calculated to obtain the object in view. Shimoga Deputy concurs in the views expressed by the Chief Commissr & suggests that in cases of restoration of tanks, the Dy: Commissr may be permitted to dispense with Contributions where villages are very small & Ryots too poor to pay any

Rs: 41378 " Decy 3.

Rs: 68074 " Nov: 4

Kins-

reduced the cost of
the general project as
regards such service, when
taken up by the Govt.
- Com. dept. and also
that he indemnify proprietors
contribution towards
the latter -

2- With regard to the
principle of Govt
contributions for - depth
&c - the restoration of
Docks, which may be
held to include the
deepening of a Channel
beyond that secured
by Treaty, it is essen-
tial that the contri-
butions should be "to
Counting" which it may
be expected will only
be the case, when
the port is settled -
different as regards
the proposed Docks on
the Govt. are very
unjust to its Speculative

obtaining at the Port
of the Govt. a good
Harbour -

15/4.
J. Hall.

and due to prospec
of the latter without
their contributing the
- cality towards it -
3 Since the depth of
a Ship's water is to
a distinct Engage-
ment pro contribu-
ting towards such
a work, and of in
convenience in the
fruit of such de-
pression, there
can be no question
propriety & principle of
of that latter thing
Engagement, that
if Govt. have the
every such case
should be limited
with - to the
actual, and that
the Port

necessary to provide for
it that the Corporate shall
satisfy himself that the
majority of the Eyots thus
the sanction of the majority
for the general benefit
of those concerned, & that
their application for the
construction and engage-
ment to make good the
contribution required there-
for shall be binding on
the dissentient minority
if there is one. The
majority should be re-
cited such short of 3/4
of the Eyots concerned,
and the Labour should
be limited & the holders
& occupiers of lands that
will be benefited by the
proposed Work.

Should there not
be sufficient funds of
the Share & the Loans
by such individuals
in such case there should
be added in a Statement
appended to the Engage-
ment, & this should

[illegible] 16.4.74

Memo

No. 472/11 dy 20th April 1871

The subject of the non-utilization of the Local Fund and Irrigation Cesses in settled Talooks having come under notice, a letter was addressed to the Commissioner of the Nuggur Division in April last, calling his immediate and earnest attention thereto, with a view to the earliest measures being taken to ensure the due utilization of these contributions for the benefit of the people who are paying them in every settled Talook in Nuggur. At the same time a report was required as to what has been done in respect to carrying out the scheme of roads in the Soraba Talook, approved by the Chief Commr. a year ago - i.e. to report, what has since been actually done in respect of the several lines, and when each one of them is likely to be completed, or, at least, available for the ordinary traffic of the locality.

2. Copies of the fore-going communications were sent to the Commissioners of Kundi-droog and Ashtagrum for information & guidance and to the Survey Commr. for information.

3. The Commr. of Nuggur now submits for informa-tion copies of letters from the Deputy Commr. of Shimoga reporting on the present state of the Sorub. Siddapoor and Seralcope Herekeroor lines, and the lines between Honnalli and Shikarpoor.

No. 101/38 dated 7th June 1864
" 132/46 " 19th " "

4. The Deputy Commrs. inspection reports show following results. - Regarding the road from Sorub towards Siddapoor, to the Paddy flat beyond the Village of Kadasoor, the furthest point, where it is now being made about 8 miles from this, he reports as follows. - The approaches to the river at Sorub is well sloped, and on the other side of the river some trees have been newly planted to form an

159 dated 19th May

avenue. Check and side Drains have been formed and the road well made throughout, to near the Village of Madasoor, where there is a break, as owing to the approaching monsoon, it is important to proceed with the filling up the Paddy flat beyond. Gravel has only been spread in parts, but a good deal is collected ready for spreading with the first rains. It is observed, that some of the gravel pits have been dug too near the road, and that the check drains require deepening; the white ant hills which crop up here and there also require removing. The Deputy Commr. says he inspected this road 6 months since and he is glad to report great progress in opening this line to traffic. That at that time, but 1500 Rupees had been spent and 2000 Rupees more seem now to have been carefully laid out, and that he has every confidence that this

years allotment of 3500Rs will be carefully utilized.

185 d/ 25th. May /72

5. Regarding the road from Siralcope to the Dharwar boundary on the Nerekroor road, a distance of about 8 1/4 miles has been formed throughout, with a short break at the Dharmaghutty Tank near the Sayer Cuttay, about 8 miles from this, with side Drains in the higher slopes; the latter however require deepening. Gravelling has in parts been newly laid, and all seem well carried out so far, and the 3500Rs spent on it between December and April well laid out. Trees will have to be planted on this line, which promises to be a most useful one.

6. As regards the Annutty Goondi roads, 3/4 of a mile was constructed in the year 1872-73. at a cost of 500 Rupees, and during last year the sum of Rupees 2012-3-3 was expended and 2 miles, and 5 1/2

205 d/ 27th. May /72

furlongs have been formed, making a total distance of 3 miles 3 ½ furlongs. At some places it was found difficult owing to the stony nature of the soil to carry out digging during the dry weather consequently these parts were reserved for the monsoon. The rains having however set in the gaps will be filled and completed before the end of the year.

Both roads are now to some extent trafficable and every endeavour will be made to complete them before the end of this official year.

220 d/ 1st June 1914-

7. The line of road from the Bellary side, where it joins at Jecankoopa to Hosmalli about 8 miles from the latter, the side and check Drains have been recently formed, but owing to the recent heavy rains, they have in parts got silted up. At the village at Sartoor

about

about 3 miles from Honnalli where an embankment had been newly formed a good deal had been washed down, but in other respects, this seems to have progressed so far well, and the sum of 2000 Rupees well laid out.

The Deputy Comm.r also inspected the half mile of road over the Pass about 4 miles from this to the Dharwar frontier on the Toomni Kutty road which was completed in March last at a cost of 500 Rupees with Check and Side Drains. It forms an easy gradient for carts passing to this important market, in striking contrast with the slope one hitherto used, and when this is connected with the Town of Honnalli it will form an important link in the chain of communication

VR 4/7/74

Attorney
for Plaintiff

These reports show
that some efforts are
being made to carry
out these duties but
I rely on such things
exceptionally conti-
-nued until they
are completed and
open for use.

The case from
Court of Appeals
is considered by the
Attorney General that
I must hold in-
-structions of Plaintiff
to read to know
that it also has
been taken in
hand & is being

Attorney for Plaintiff

1/7/24

1-7-24

N° 129-1 of 12th March 1870.
and Resolutions of the Bryson Irrigation Committee.

16.4.74.

It appears to be very doubtful if any hard and fast rules can be advantageously laid down for adoption in this instance.

1. The question of the Expediency of "Draining Upper Strata & the Subsoil" of Lands for which no Irrigation Supply is available distinct from "Contributions for the restoration" of Works should not be mixed up with it. The former should be enforced wherever required in the Public Interests, the repairs may be conducted at the cost of the State and the subsequent up-keep left to the Ryots. In undertaking repairs to tanks at the cost of the State, the suggestions made in para of this Memo may if approved be adopted.

B Saunders
11/4/74

Ch Hons:

Statement B shows that Bangalore Kolar & Hassan have raised the largest amount by contributions from Ryots & from these districts have most complaints on the subject been received. I do not think any benefit would be likely to be allowed

to levy contributions
in money or labour
until he has showed
that he can expend
the funds Govt have
placed at his disposal.
There is money enough
if by Govt it would
be expended for all the
work they can per-
form with their Establishment
now.

I don't think any
rules on the subject
are necessary but
I do think Govt
ought to be told not
to call upon the Govts
for contributions
until they can insure
they can expend
all the money Govt
is prepared to place
at their disposal
Collecting contributions
is a cheap way of

by the Revenue Offi-
cers under the orders
of the province and
it is perfectly com-
petent & then & then
the complaints or
the want of the
Rights in carrying
the arrangement
It is only necessa-
ry to add that
in the case of "bu-
in arrears" such
sums are frequently wanted to
in that if single ha-
should be suppose
with any defen
& this is intended spe-
cations of the Lan
Labour. Allow me to re-
spect of such cases
no doubt, of pro-
perly expended, that
the Irish Deputies
in H. Parl. did

Kundi: Comrs' No. 4882
the 12th June 1873 on
the system of "volun-
-tary contributions"
by Ryots towards the
repair of their village
Tanks.—

Pleader

No. 4312. 3 Nov 73.
G. 69.

-ider thereon.—

There are two classes
of works, which may
be regarded as coming
under the terms of
the question at issue
in the matter reported
on above, viz.—
(1) ordinary repairs
to the earth work of
Tank Bunds, for
which the Ryots
have been always
theoretically respon-
-sible. There are

was no Kodiyi Imam
for the conservancy of
~~each~~ the tank; and (2)
the work necessary
for the restoration
of a ruined tank or
one out of use.
2. For the former, the
Ryots are fairly respon-
sible, and it is the
duty of the Dr. Conr.
to arrange for the
execution of such
repairs, and to
require all ryots
~~to whom this obligation~~
concerned therein, to
aid in their being
carried out, either
by labor or contributions.
3. As regards the latter,
the case is different, and
it is essential that the
Ryots concerned shall

5. Under the impulse that has of late been given to Tank restoration, the time seems to have arrived for laying down definite rules having the force of law on this subject in connection with those lately promulgated in the Irrigation Dept: in the case of tanks brought up to standard by Govt. & made over to the Depts for future maintenance.

6. The principle seems just, in a province so dependent on its Tanks for its water supply as Mysore is, that every community should be bound by the acts of a reasonable majority

of its members, in
respect of the restoration
of a tank common to
all and on which the
general prosperity of
a village depends;
and the Chf. Coms-
considers that, where
2/3 or 3/4 of the ryots
concerned are willing
to enter into an ~~agreement~~
engagement of the sort,
the minority should
be required to abstain
likewise.

7. The proportion of
the cost of a work that
the ryots should
make up is a matter
for settlement by the
Dt. Coms- in communication
with the Executive Engineer.

8. It is impossible to lay down any rule as to the degree of pressure or influence Revenue Officer ~~an Auditor~~ may use ~~to endeavour~~ to obtain the consent of a community to make good such portion, but it may be broadly stated that such pressure should not be carried beyond the exercise of reasonable influence on his part ~~of a Dr Court~~.

9. In respect of cases that have already occurred, the Chf. Comr. is not disposed to

interfere where the works that have been carried out have been agreed to by a large majority of a community, but every such case must be dealt with on its own special merits.

10. The Courts of the Divisions are requested to give their careful consideration to the subject of these above remarks and favor the Chf. Court with an early expression of their views thereon.

Jno. R. Secretary

4

To all Courts of Divisions

From the Offg. Commissioner of the Nandidroog Division, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Genl. Dept., No. G. 48, dated Bangalore, 12th June 1873.

I. In accordance with the 2nd para of your letter to my address, No. 599—G. 19, dated the 5th May 1873, calling for a report on the subject of contributions by ryots towards the repair of tanks, the amount thereof and the process by which the ryots are induced to promise them, I have the honor to submit as follows:—

II. The tanks in this Province are very numerous, and for several years past had been gradually deteriorating, by bunds wearing down, and sluices, waste weirs, and stone revetments getting into disorder. The result was that breaches were often occurring and though the breach of an isolated tank might, comparatively speaking, not do much harm, still the consequences were very serious if the breach occurred in a chain of tanks, and where the breach of No. 1 tank, pouring a sudden volume of water into No. 2 tank caused the latter to breach, till the volume of released water become so great that even the strongest tank bund was unable to resist the violent stream and thus the whole chain of tanks succumbed in turn and were swept away. It cannot be said that Government was idle all this time, or omitted to spend a certain amount yearly, in repairs of tanks; but efforts at this period were rather desultory, and good projects (*i. e.* those which promised to speedily recoup the outlay in an increased revenue) and such where the ryots gave contributions either in money or labor, were first taken in hand, rather than those dilapidated but comparatively unremunerative tanks which were most in need of repair. Even then, many of these good projects used annually to be returned unsanctioned for want of funds. Thus it was that annual repairs fell very far short of the annual deterioration. When at Mysore some years back, I was much struck with this neglect and the apparent oversight of the responsibilities of the village communities as regards their tanks, and lost no time in requiring the ryots to execute such necessary earthwork to their tanks as would help to ensure their safety. The same system has been pursued in the Bangalore District, and is also, I believe, now in pretty general vogue throughout the Province. The principle of these repairs is that the ryots are most interested in the up-keep of their tanks; that Government has neither the money nor agency to prepare innumerable projects every year on strict principles of estimates and regular accounts; that the ryots do not demur to performing this work as this form of customary labor is not a new thing to them; and that if yearly carried out on a system of timely repairs the work to be annually performed hereafter will not be much The value in money of these earth-work repairs to tanks by ryots, in recent years, it is difficult to estimate, but it must amount to a very large sum.

III. Independent of the systematic repair of tanks by the Irrigation Department on the chain system, a much larger sum than formerly is now placed at the disposal of the Revenue Department for general repairs in each District. The Deputy Commissioner naturally seeks to make the sum allotted to his District to go as far as possible, and thus he requires contributions from ryots either in labor or money. If the District Officer, but more especially the Amildar, be interested in the matter, it is a comparatively easy task to get the ryots to contribute, and I think they now give their consent more readily than before, because they see that Government is in earnest in the matter and is spending much of its own money, independent of their contributions, in numerous tank projects throughout the country. In fact, it may be stated that the consent of the ryots to contribute is almost taken as a matter granted. The proportion of contribution is not fixed on any particular scale, but varies from $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ of the total estimate. Some villages are well populated and the inhabitants well to do, and some the reverse, and these points are taken into consideration when fixing the amount of contribution. Again, some tanks have much well cultivation below, and these garden holders are also called upon to contribute as they indirectly much benefit from the tanks. On the whole, it may be said that no fixed priniciple governs this question of fixing the amount of contribution and who are to be called upon to pay the same; but, as before stated, if the Amildar is intelligent and respected, the matter is carried through very amicably. At times disputes do occur and outsiders especially attempt to evade their responsibilities. Their quota of work is then carried out by paid labor, and recovered from the defaulters as a revenue demand. In other cases again, outsiders come forward with very liberal offers in the way of contributions.

IV. When tanks are being repaired on the chain system by the Irrigation Department, I, as District Officer, used to go to each tank with the Irrigation Engineer, who had the estimate with him. The ryots were assembled and eventually the amount of their contributions were fixed upon. This at all times was not an easy task, as the ryots imagining that the Irrigation Department would, or rather must (as the tank is in chain) repair their tanks independent of their contributions, were apt to hang back and plead poverty or even deny the necessity of the work estimated for. Again, as regards chain tanks, the ryots often delay their portion of earthwork, so that the Irrigation Department has to

carry it out and then look to the Revenue Department for repayment by the ryots. In addition, the ryots are not on the same footing of accord with the Irrigation as with the Revenue Department, and thus difficulties arise; and to obviate the same some better fixed principle seems required, such for instance as that the ryots shall do all the turfing and contribute in cash say from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{16}$ of the estimate.

V. To recapitulate, the subject may be put thus. The ryots complain, or the District Officer or Amildar observes, that a certain tank requires certain repairs. The ryots are then called upon to state if they will contribute, and the reply is as a rule in the affirmative. The Amildar or District Officer then fixes the amount, and which generally is about $\frac{1}{5}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ of the amount of estimate. There is no fixed principle to determine this amount, though the circumstances of the villagers are taken into consideration. The only difficulty is, as before stated, when tanks are being systematically repaired in their series, and when the ryots try to evade contributing, knowing that these tanks must be brought up to standard for the sake of the chain. A difficulty sooner or later as regards contributions in the case of these tanks may arise, and I am disposed to recommend that the quota of the ryots' contributions should be somewhat less than it is at present, seeing that they will still be required to keep their tanks up to standard and further pay irrigation cess.

VI. It is clear that even moderate contributions will effect a vast saving to Government when the total expenditure to be incurred on the whole of the tanks throughout the Province is taken into consideration. To fix the rate of contribution too high will work hardship upon the ryots, whilst a too low figure will involve as regards Government a great additional outlay.

VII. Further particulars will be found in the communications, on the subject, of the several Deputy Commissioners of this District and copies of which, as per margin, are herewith enclosed.

From Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, No. 177, dated 29th May 1873.
Do do Kolar District, No. 329—115, dated 21st do.
Do do Toomkoor District, No. 165, dated 5th June do.

From the Offg. Deputy Commissioner of the Bangalore District, To the Offg. Commissioner, Nandidroog Division, No. 177, dated Bangalore, 29th May 1873.

I have the honor to acknowledge your Circular No. 72, dated 16th instant, requesting information in reference to contributions by ryots towards repairs executed to tanks.

2. The amounts contributed vary in each case according to the circumstances of the ryots, and are either in cash or in labor. When the works are particularly desired, the ryots are sometimes willing to bear one third of the estimated costs, but more frequently the proportion borne by them is one fourth, or less, and even one eighth.

3. The works which seem more especially to refer to the question under reference, are those for repairs to tanks, whose safety as well as others, frequently very important ones, in the same chain would be endangered unless attended to in time.

4. In general the necessity of the works and their own interests in the same are clearly laid before them, and the ryots are prevailed upon to freely promise to bear their quota of the expense. Such course however does not always succeed; the ryots think that they may escape their obligation by holding back, and that Government would execute the repairs without expense or trouble to themselves. When this happens the District Officer determines what he considers a fair amount of contribution, and the ryots are called upon to pay; if they refuse, it is recovered as a revenue balance.

5. I would quote the Circulars marginally noted as authority for obtaining contributions from ryots, especially No. 3316—307, dated 7th October 1870, from the Division Office.

No. 3316—307 of 7th October 1870.
„ 381 of 3rd October 1871.
„ 484 of 26th October 1871.

6. Until recently the tanks in this District were in very bad condition, and daily deteriorating, and attention was forced to the subject by numerous demands for repairs. It was then found that Government could not, unaided, meet all those demands, and that even if they then did, they could not possibly continue to do so. As these tanks are very numerous and scattered over the country and are beneficial to ryots and to their cattle, it seems but fair that they should help in their repairs.

7. In conclusion, from an inspection of these tanks, many of which are small, but beyond proportion to the revenue derived from the lands under them, it seems to me to be not improbable that they must have anciently been constructed by the village community themselves, who in the course of time have either lost sight of or escaped their responsibility to keep up the same.

From the Deputy Commissioner of the Kolar District, To the Commissioner, Nandidroog Division, No. 329—115, dated Kolar, 21st May 1873.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Official Memorandum No. 98 of May 1873, giving cover to copy of letter No. 599—19 of the 5th instant, from the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner on the subject of recovering contributions from the ryots towards irrigation works. The Chief Commissioner has been pleased to direct the submission of a report on "the process by which the ryots are induced to promise" these contributions, and "the amount of them." I beg leave to state briefly the circumstances under which this system was introduced by me into this District.

2. The most peculiar feature of this District is, that it is studded with a very large number of tanks, the majority of which are petty ones, though, in the aggregate, they yield a large amount of wet revenue to the Government, and there could be no doubt that the greater number of these tanks must have been originally constructed by the founders of the villages, or by the village community, as the small amount of revenue derivable from each individual tank could not have justified any Government to spend such disproportionately large sums of money in their construction. These tanks however have been gradually allowed to fall into disorder, as the policy pursued by Purnaiya deprived the Patels of their influence and position in their respective villages and thereby diminished the interest they naturally took in such works before. The result of this deplorable state of things was not however much felt so long as the wet lands were cultivated on batayi tenure, the ryots tilling as much land as the scanty supply of water in the tanks could irrigate, and the Government being content with the revenue realized by the sale of their share of the crops, though it fluctuated according to the season and the price of grain.

3. Soon after I took charge of the District, I found an enormous extent of land under batayi cultivation, and having, with the sanction of the higher authority, converted a great portion of it into money assessment, the ryots began to clamour about the condition of the tanks in the District, the restoration of which was found to be a matter of absolute necessity, in order to enable the ryots to pay the assessment on their lands. This point, which is a most important one, as affecting the Government as well as the ryots, occupied my attention, and, after much consideration, I arrived at the conclusion that it was impossible for the Government to bear the whole cost of restoring all these tanks, and that the desired object could not be attained, unless the ryots were called upon to co-operate with the Government in the matter.

4. This led me to try the former practice of exacting labor from the ryots; but I deemed it unadvisable to revive it, as it could not be enforced without winking at all sorts of iniquitous acts on the part of petty officials in exacting labor from the ryots.

5. I then tried the system (*a*) proposed by Mr. Bowring. This was "to effect the restoration of tanks by means of the villagers, the Government contributing towards the work in rateable proportion to the prospective remuneration of each project" or what may in other words be called the grant-in-aid system. Under this system the ryots were first to execute a certain amount of work according to the estimate and then to draw by instalments the quota promised by the Government as grant-in-aid which was fixed in consideration of the merits of each case. This system too did not answer, as it was found difficult to get the absent land-holders and the influential and non-agricultural classes to contribute their share of the labor like the poor and ignorant ryots on the spot who of course were unable to fulfil their agreement.

(*a*) *Vide* para 10 of Secretary's letter No. 2078—R. 39 of 8th August 1856.

6. On a consideration of all the difficulties which had beset the above system, I thought that the best method would be to obtain contributions in cash from the ryots instead of giving them a grant-in-aid, and have the work executed under the supervision of Government Officers. I then impressed on the ryots the advantages of this system over the others, as under this, no one, whether influential or non-influential, agriculturist or non-agriculturist, could evade the payment of his quota, and convinced them

of their obligation to repair and maintain in good order the tanks built by their forefathers at their own cost or at the cost of the village community. The intelligent among them perceived the justice of my proposal that they should bear a portion of the cost of repairing their tanks and agreed to the scheme being carried out. This matter was fully (*b*) discussed when I had the honor of being a member of the committee convened by Mr. Bowring on the occasion of Colonel Strachey's visit to Mysore in the beginning of 1868, and was finally approved of by the Irrigation Committee convened at Bangalore by order of the Chief Commissioner, *Vide* paras 34 to 37 of its (*c*) Resolution.

(*b*) *Vide* Colonel Strachey's memo dated 22nd February 1868, received with your Circular No. 4497—459, dated 20th March 1868.

(*c*) Received with your docket No. 4722—525 of 22nd March 1869.

7. From that period I commenced to levy these contributions in cash, and it will be observed from the (*d*) marginally noted table that this item of revenue under "Public Works" has increased from rupees 2,162 in 1869—70 to the large sum of Rs. 16,200 during the past year, as already brought to notice in para 74 of my Administration Report submitted last week. The contributions are collected like all other revenue (*e*) demands, but I am glad to state that no extreme measures have hitherto been resorted to for its recovery, though a little difficulty has been experienced in a few cases in which the land-holders belong to other than the agricultural class. Indeed, the cultivating ryots, seeing the advantages of this system, have willingly come forward in many instances and voluntarily paid up their contributions.

(*d*) In 1869—70 Rs. 2,162 0 0
" 1870—71 " 6,738 0 0
" 1871—72 " 9,191 0 0
" 1872—73 " 16,200 0 0

(*e*) *Vide* Colonel Meade's order conveyed in letter No. 97, dated 13th June 1871, from the Under Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Irrigation Branch.

8. The principle upon which I collect these contributions is to fix the rateable proportion of the amount of contribution to be paid by the ryots in each case with reference to the period within which the outlay can be recouped, and to apportion the amount that each ryot has to pay according to the extent of his holding under the tank. This is done by getting an estimate, providing for the full work required to put the tank in thorough order framed at first, and the ryots' quota is then fixed according to the merits of each case. The amount of this quota is then divided into shares in order to ascertain how much is due upon each kudu, kandi or acre, and all the parties holding the lands on assessment under the tank are then called upon to pay accordingly.

9. This system has worked exceedingly well and has been attended with marked success in this District.

From the Offg. Deputy Commissioner of the Toomkoor District, To the Offg. Commissioner of the Nandidroog Division, No. 165, dated Toomkoor, 5th June 1873.

With reference to your Circular No. 172 of 16th ultimo and docket No. 93 of the 29th idem, calling for a report on the system of ryots' contributions towards the repairs of tanks, I have the honor to state on account of the number of tanks requiring repairs those which the ryots offer to help in repairing are as a rule first taken in hand, and under your Circular Order No. 381 of 3rd October 1871 ; the ryots generally subscribe one fourth of the estimated cost of repairs. In some instances where they offer to do the work in lieu of the ¼ share of money, they are permitted to do so.

No. 4312—G. 69, DATED BANGALORE, 3RD NOVEMBER 1873.

ORDER THEREON.—There are two classes of works, which may be regarded as coming under the terms of the question at issue in the matter reported on above, *viz* :—

(1.) *Ordinary repairs* to the earth-work of tank bunds, for which the ryots have been always theoretically responsible, where there is no kodigi inam for the conservancy of the tank; and (2) the work necessary for the *restoration* of a ruined tank or one out of use.

1873

Government of Mysore

(General)

Circular

To, The Commrs of

Nandidroog

Ashtagram &

Nagar Divs

Dy Bangalore 3rd Novr 1873

Despy 14th "

Recpt

No. 4312

G Dy

Rd. 6th Inst.
3-11-73

Contribution by Rayto towards the repair of Tanks - Requesting Commrs opinion for the Chief Commrs with early expression of opinion on the subject.

From 187

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,

General Departme

Dated

Despatched

Received

Rem

Enclosures No.

General No.

No.

Statics on the subject of Contribution towards Ecclesiastical works.

Dublin

12-2-73

Rem

General No. 548 }
Genl " 183 } 1873/74.

With Enclosures
A Telegram Commissioner's Office

To,

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Mysore

General Department

Dated, Bangalore, 10 December 1873.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4312 of 3rd Nov. 69 1873, and in reply to state for the information of the Chief Commissioner that, although the principle that every Community should be bound by the acts of a reasonable majority of its members in respect of the restoration of a Tank common to all is sound in theory, it practically entails, I apprehend, great hardship on the poorest classes residing in the Village, who, while willing to enter into engagements are not in a position to fulfill the same.— It is difficult to lay down definite rules in all such cases.— I am therefore of opinion that each case may conveniently be dealt with by the Dy. Commr on its individual merits, all cases of an unusual or important nature being submitted for orders

of higher authorities.—

II. Regarding the ordinary repairs to earth work of Tank bunds, the rules already received are clear and provide for all cases so that they may be acted on by the Dy. Commissioners without any practical difficulty.—

III. Copy of letter addressed by me to the Under Secretary to the Chief Commissioner on the subject of contribution towards agri-cultural works is herewith forwarded for information.—

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servt

[signature]

Commissioner

Telegraph Division

No. 171

92

Admn: Comm'r's Office

To, The Off Commr Cauvery Delta
The Under Secy: to the
Chief Commissioner
Irrigation Works

Dated Yelwal 10 Decr. 1873.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Docket No: 2206 of 30: Octo: 1873, calling for any observations I may have to make in regard to the terms of your Cir: No: 330 of the 5: Septr. /73 on the subject 2179 of Ryoto contributions towards Agricultural works. . . .

2. In reply, I beg to state that I fully concur in the principles laid down in the above circular, and the only observations I have to make are, that holding the Dy Commrs: primarily responsible for the collection of contributions in money or labor, insisting upon the recovery of money in all cases in which Ryots fail from various and possibly unavoidable causes to furnish labor as stipulated in their engagements within a

9

, a fixed time, would involve the Rev.
Officers in considerable embar=
=rasment, and a Mysore Ryot will
agree to anything, sign any thing,
promise any thing, and will with
equal facility repudiate all his
engagements, and moreover he
cannot be made to understand
that such promises or engage=
ments should bind him and
be enforced — Therefore I say
it would be very hard to make
a Dy Commissioner or Commissioner
responsible for his short comings —
At the same time it would entail
great hardship on the agricul=
=tural classes who are already
subjected to much inconvenience
in carrying out the various measures which
have been introduced into this Province
during the past two or three years,
for instance the collection of interest
on Kists which are over due,
levey of fees on notices and of
Local cesses — maintenance of
tanks, topes, avenues and village
roads restrictions in Forest
matters, and supply of Labor

1
I-10

0 Cav

1873.

From Secretary Chief Commissioner

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,

General Department.

Dated 27 Dec

Despatched 31

Received 5-1-74

Regd 5

Enclosures No. Nil

General No. 1993

Rev No. 165

With reference to his, No 14312 Com. dated 3d November last 69 forwards Copies of letters from the Deputy Commrs regarding contributions by Ryots towards the repairs of Tanks with certain observations —

Secy Chief Commr
5-1-74

Under Secy

~~Deputy Commissioners Office~~
~~Nagpur~~ Camp Umballa 27th December 1873.

From Dy Comr of Nagpur
To The Secretary & the Chf Commr of
Nagpur

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No 4312 dated the 3rd November last, regarding s.69 Contributions by Ryots towards the repairs of Tanks, and to forward the accompanying copies of letters containing the opinions of the Deputy Commrs on the subject-

II It is true that ordinary repairs to Tanks should be carried out by the Ryots and they are gradually acknowledging their responsibilities in this respect- so that no particular action seems necessary in this direction, as when the Tanks are brought up to standard and handed over to the Ryots for upkeep the recently promulgated rules will ensure all that is requisite for such upkeep-

III Some Tanks however have been so neglected that it would be scarcely fair on the present generation to require it to carry out all the Earthwork requisite - Such Tanks in fact require Extensive repairs on a regular Estimate and it will be found as a rule, that the Ryots will be ready to contribute. If not I think, it should be made compulsory on them to undertake the front & rear slope turfing, and to contribute in addition 1/8 or 1/16th of the Estimate as decided upon by the Deputy Comrs, either in Cash or labor - Practically however there will be found but little or no difficulty

as regards repair &c to be carried out by the Rev: Dept - The real difficulty will be in the case of Tanks being brought up to standard by the Irrigation Department - Here as the Ryots know the work must be done by that Dept, & that too, without loss of time, they will try to evade promising or paying contributions - In such cases connected with the operations of the Irrigation Dept, I think it should be made compulsory on the Ryots to do all the front and rear turfing & contribute 1/8 or 1/16th of the total Estimate in cash or labor - The Dr Comr should have the option of reducing the amount in cases of poverty & other Exceptional circumstances Care should however be taken by the Engineer Officers to consult the wishes & interests of the Ryots as much as possible, so as to carry the Ryots with them in their projected plans for improving Tanks - Extra work such as that entailed in forming a slop Tank, should, I think be met solely from funds of the Irrigation Dept - The Dr Comr should ordinarily be in accord with the Irrigation Dept as to what is to be done in the case of each Tank - I think it will be found more Expedient in practice that the Ryots should understand that they must

Contribute, rather than seek for voluntary
Contributions which will be sometimes
made the occasion for discontented
Ryots & others Complaining that undue
pressure was exercised towards them to
ensure Consent &c

IV Lastly tho' it appears a small
matter, it will perhaps be advisable
that the requisite stamp for Execution
of the Moochalika Engaging to Contribute
should be furnished by the Irrigation
Dept & the amount Charged to the Estimate

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obed. Servant
J. Thackeray
offg Commissioner
Nuggur Dr

2. For the former, the ryots are fairly responsible, and it is the duty of the Deputy Commissioner to arrange for the execution of such repairs, and to require all ryots concerned therein to aid in their being carried out, either by labor or contributions.

3. As regards the latter, the case is different, and it is essential that the ryots concerned shall not merely agree to the work, but *shall formally bind themselves* to provide the service or money required for its execution. All the orders that have been issued on this subject by the Chief Commissioner have been clear on this point, and lay down that no improper compulsion or pressure should be put on a community in such a case.

4. Where, however, the agreement has been executed, and the work taken in hand on the strength of the agreement, it should be duly enforced, and any attempt to evade its conditions properly checked.

5. Under the impulse that has of late been given to tank restorations, the time seems to have arrived for laying down defiite rules having the force of law on this subject in connection with those lately proulgated in the Irrigation Department in the case of tanks brought up to standard by Government and made over to the ryots for future maintenance.

6. The principle seems just, in a Province dependent on its tanks for a water-supply as Mysore is, that every community should be bound by the acts of a reasonable majority of its members, in respect of the restoration of a tank common to all, and on which the general prosperity of a village depends; and the Chief Commissioner considers that, where $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of the ryots concerned are willing to enter into an engagement of the sort, the minority should be *required* to assent likewise.

7. The proportion of the cost of a work that the ryots should make up is a matter for settlement by the Deputy Commissioner in communication, if necessary, with the Executive Engineer.

8. It is impossible to lay down any rule as to the degree of pressure or influence a Revenue Officer may use to obtain the consent of a community to make good such portion; but it may be broadly stated that such pressure should not be carried beyond the exercise of reasonable *influence* on his part.

9. In respect of cases that have already occurred, the Chief Commissioner is not disposed to interfere where the works that have been carried out have been agreed to by a large majority of a community, but, even such case must be dealt with on its own special merits.

10. The Commissioners of the Divisions are requested to give their careful consideration to the subject of the above remarks and favor the Chief Commissioner with an early expression of their views thereon.

H. W. WELLESLEY,
Offg. Secretary.

To—All Commissioners of Divisions.

Assistant Collector
Division

No 4312
69

1873.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

GENERAL.

CIRCULAR.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF
NANDIDROOG, ASHTAGRAM AND
NAGAR DIVISIONS.

Dated November 3rd.

Despatched

Received

No. 4312.
G. 69.

Contribution by ryots towards the repair tanks. Requesting Commissioners to favor Chief Commissioner with early expression opinion on the subject.

regularly and systematically under-
taken, as several of the tanks that
I have seen have fallen into such
a state of disrepair that the Ryots
would have to spend very large
sums indeed to make up for years
of neglect and in several cases
they have utterly declined to do
anything, saying that as no repairs
have been done for years they
will not undertake them but
if the tanks is handed over to
them in fair order they will under-
take its upkeep - Such tanks
I presume will be taken up by
the Irrigation Department - With
regard to ordinary earth work
repairs to tanks that are in fair
order, it cannot be expected
that the ryots will at first
willingly do the work as they
have not done it hitherto; to
see that the work is done, it
will be necessary for Amildars
to take more interest in this
branch of their duties than they
do at present -

Steps are being taken by
me to hand over as many tanks
as are in fair working order
(though not actually up to
standard) as possible to the
Ryots for up-keep, under the
Rules laid down in your Circular

No

No 631 of 6th September 1872 and as by these Rules Amildars are obliged to inspect each Tank once in every year & pass orders in the Tank Book and submit a report to the Collr who must himself also inspect many of them during January it may be expected that the condition of the Tanks will improve -

V As regards the restoration of ruined Tanks, or works involving professional skill, the Engineering authorities are entrusted with their management, and a regular Tank Survey is being made for the restoration of remunerative works by the Irrigation Deptt in a few Talooks of this District - Ryots are called on to state what they will contribute and what land they will take up -

VI In conclusion I consider that the Ryots should be required to contribute from 1/6th to 1/4th the amount necessary for the repair of their Tanks according to circumstances - To [illegible] more would press hard on them - I think, especially in this District where owing to the mountains rain fall the Tanks

do

do not fill every year & where the supply to many Tanks is, in a great degree cut off by the countless Sugoorullee Cuttays spread all over the country reach up in some instances to the heads of the tanks -

I have &c

Sigd A. Sheemeroo Ayengar
for Offr on Cons.

True Copy

Sheriff

Offr Commissioner
Ongole

9
I-10

General - No 197

1874.

From The Commissioner
Tanjore Dist

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner.

General Department.

Dated 30th Jany 1874.

Despatched

Received 3rd

Reg.

Enclosures No.

General No. 197 1873/74.

No.

Circular

Chief Comrs Proceedings dtd. 4th Sept 1873.

of the 3rd November 1873.

Submits an expression of views on the question of Contributions by ryots towards the maintenance of Irrigation works

For Secretary
Genl Dept
3/2/1874

Pencilled

Remarks

Forwarded with reply from Burgess & Cunningham.

25/1/74

be clearly defined and legalised, the desire of the Chief Commissioner, that no improper compulsion or pressure should be put on the community will, I submit, be better attained, than by leaving it to the discretion of Amildar. I therefore recommend, as I have done once before in the Hyderabad District, that only a week's labor in the year should be demanded from each villager and holder of land attached to the village and tank to the upkeep of the tank, and that it should be compulsory on the non-laboring classes to pay for labor to the extent of work allotted to them, and in the case of recusants the work may be carried out by the head of the village, and the cost be recoverable by sale of property in the same manner as arrears of revenue.

3. In the case of contributions 1/4th of the outlay has been usually regarded as a fair proportion to be borne by the ryots though it has been increased to 1/3rd, and as much as 1/2, in cases in which the repair of the tank would not have otherwise proved sufficiently remunerative to be undertaken by Government, and in which the want of drinking-water for the ryots and their cattle has been much felt. In such cases the Zemindar, Puttadar and Buttayee or Inamdar under the tank should, I think, be required to pay 2/3rds of the contribution according to the extent of land held and the remaining 1/3rd be borne by the villagers, who benefit by the tank in proportion to the taxes they pay to Government. As proposed by the Chief Commissioner, it will have to be authoritatively laid down that the whole of the

villages

irrigation cess on their lands indi-
-cates that they are in some measure
to be relieved of the duty. Seeing also
that their ryots bear the same relation
to the Inamdars as ryots in Sirkar
villages do to the Government, it would
be only fair that all should be treated
alike. This question may have more
special reference to the Ashtagram
Division, where a whole Taluk and
some Hoblees have been assigned as
Jaghirs and Temple lands; but some
ruling is needed for future guidance,
and should, I submit, apply equally
to all.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

J. Smith
Asst. Commissioner.

No 680

~~Shemoga District Deputy Commissioners Office~~
~~Camp Tirutcope Encampment Jakoor~~
4th November 1873.

To From D/ Comr of Shemoga &c
The Commissioner
Mysore Division

Sir

In reply to your circular No 358 dated 21st ultimo regarding contributions by Ryots towards the repairs of Tanks I have the honor to state I quite concur in the views expressed by the Chief Commissioner on the subject and would only wish to mention as regards the 2nd class of works, i.e. restoration of Tanks that the Deputy Commissioner may be invested to dispense with contribution from Ryots in cases in which the Villages are very small and the Ryots are too poor to pay any thing

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) A. J. Bruce
Dy: Commissioner
Shemoga

General No 413.

~~Cuddoor District~~
~~Deputy Commissioners Office~~
dated 8th December 1873

To From D/ Comr of Cuddoor
The Commissioner
Mysore Division

~~Mysore~~

Your Circular No. 358 of the 21st ultimo and accompaniment.

With reference to the above calling for an expression of opinion on the subject of the contribution by Ryots towards the repair of Tanks. I have the honor to state that the undersigned considers the orders proposed to be issued in the matter well calculated to attain the object in view.

Signed P. Krishna Row
Offg. Deputy Commissioner
Cuddapah District

True Copies

S. Ruthnaswamy
Offg. Commissioner
Ceded Districts

1874.

From The Comm^r Enggrs
To The Secretary to the Chief Comm^r
of Mysore

Dated 7th June 1874.

With reference to para 2 of the Secty's letter No 472 Rev 11 dated 20th April/74 calling for a report as to what has been actually done in respect to carrying out the scheme of roads in the Soraba Taluk approved of by the Chief Comm^r has the honor to submit for the Chief Commissioner's information copies of the Dy Comm^rs letters No 159 & 185 dated 19th & 25th ult^o reporting on the present state of the Sorab-Siddapoor and Seralcope-Hirekerur Lines now progressing in the Shemoga District, and to state that other reports will follow as soon as received.

for off^g Comm^r
Enggrs

X
R. 76

No. 30

From Offg. Commr. Nagarbe.

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Department.

Dated 7th June 1874.

Despatched 11th "

Received 15th "

Enclosures No. /

General No. ~~105~~ 1374 & 1876/75.
Rel: No. 38

Submits copies of letters from the Dy Commr Shemoga reporting on the present state of the Sorab Sirsi & Sirsi Koppa Hirékéro Lines now progressing in the Shemoga Dist.

W. Robbins
for absentee
7-6-74

from the village of Siraleope to the Dharwar boundary, on the Hirekeroor road a distance of about 8¼ miles, which has been formed throughout with a shoal break at the Dhurmagutty Tank near the Sagar Cuttay about 8 miles from this, with side Drains, and check Drains, in the higher slopes, the latter require deepening gravel=ling has in parts, been newly laid, and all seems to me well carried out so far, and the 3,500 Rs spent on it between December and April well laid out - Trees will have to be planted, but the Amildar Burmiah and the Maistry have worked well, on this Line, which promises to be a most useful one -

2. I was not able to go and inspect the 4½ miles from Anr=wutty to Goondi on the Dharwar frontier at the river Wurdah as I had to proceed to the Honnalie side, but the report of the Amildar of Soraba on the amount of work carried out will follow - The full amount could not be expended at that season of the Year, but the short expenditure will be spent this year, now that the rains have set in, with double advantage -

There

there are no difficulties in this
Line, and as the Parishkar is
specially deputed to it, I anticipate
good progress —

Thanks

Lieut A. J. Bruce
Ord Comr. Shemoga circle

True Copies

A. J. Bruce

for offg Commissioner
Mysore

1874.

From The Comm.r Nuggurs.e

To The Secretary to the Chief Comm.r
of Mysore

Dated 19th June 1874.

In Continuation of this office
Docket No 101/38 dated 7th Instant, has
the honor to Submit Copies of letters
Nos. 205 & 220 dated 27th ultimo and
1st Instant respectively reporting the
result of inspection by the Off.g Comm.r
of the Sorab & Siddapoor road &
the line between Honnally & Shikar
=poor

[signature]

Offg Commissioner
Nuggurs.e

P. 96

1874

From The Offg: Commissioner
Nagar Dara

To

Secretary to Chief Commissioner,
General Department.

Dated 19th June

Despatched 25th "

Received 29th "

Enclosures No. 1

General No. 132 } 1874.75
Hist: No. 463

Forwards copies of letters
from the Dy Commr Thaungyu,
Reporting the result of Inspec
tion of the Loralai-Siddapur Roa
and the line between Bonalli
& Shikarpur

Aug 8 Sept 1st

having on the 30th inst inspected the Line of road from the Sullor side - where it joins at Jeeanthoppu to Honnali about 8 miles from the latter - The side & cheek Drains having been recently formed, but owing to the recent heavy rains, they have in parts got silted up At the village of Sartoor about 3 miles from Honnali where an embankment had been newly formed a good deal had been washed down, but in other respects this seems to have progressed so far well, and the sum of 2000 Rs well laid out -

2. I this day inspected the half mile of road over the pass about 4 miles from this to the Dharwar frontier on the Toomin-Kuttay road, which was completed during March last at a cost of 500 Rs with Cheek and Side Drains, and forms an easy gradient for carts passing to this important market, in striking contrast with the steep one hitherto used, and when this is connected with the Town of Honnali it will form an important link in the chain of communication -

3. The Amildar with the aid of the Taluk Mistry and

Surveyor

Surveyor Tirmulsawmy Moodliar appear to have done good work on these Lines, with the exception of want of uniformity in one portion of the Side Drain on the Sharwar Side of the Pass. An old wall at the border has been cleared out, and a stone gibbet with a wheel erected which will prove useful to travellers.

I have &c

Lieut A. J. Bruce
on Cons. Shemoga duty

True Copies

H. Mitchell

Offg Commissioner
Mysore &c

1874.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

REVENUE.

THE SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT
COMMISSIONER OF MYSORE.

ed September 21st.

patched

eived

No. 4469.
R. 297.

Letters from and to Government of India, oreign Department, regarding the establish-ent of a "District Irrigation Fund."—For-arding copies with request to submit as early s possible the amendment rendered neces-ary under the head "Local Funds" in the rvey guarantee.

A.

Statement shewing Total Expenditure, &c. on repairs Agricultural since 1865-66.

Years	Budget grant as notified by Budget orders and by subsequent adoptions	Total appropriation from imperial funds	Expenditure			Lapse on grant	Lapse on Appropriations			Percentage of lapse on appropriations	Percentage of lapse on modified grant	Expenditure from money contributions			Promised labor contribution			Total Columns 15 & 18
			By Revenue Officers	By P.W.D. Officers	Total		By Revenue Officers	By P.W.D. Officers	Total			By Revenue Officers	By P.W.D. Officers	Total	On works under Revenue Officers	On works under P.W.D. Officers	Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1865-66	160000	202692	115634	54728	170359	"	29168	3165	32333	15.9	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1866-67	200000	326386	172191	57651	229842	"	81099	15445	96544	29.5	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1867-68	252500	198995	127147	57367	178414	74086	9708	10773	20481	10.3	29.3	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1868-69	224136	218769	125866	37350	163216	60920	50402	5771	55573	25.4	27.2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1869-70	250000	242957	166031	58842	224873	24960	12603	5481	18084	7.4	9.9	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1870-71	235000	209872	85913	105637	191550	43450	60555	12267	18322	8.7	18.5	"	"	"	1708	7783	9491	9491
1871-72	231100	226464	108088	77266	185354	45746	20270	20840	41110	18.1	19.7	11587	3560	15147	1000	10000	11000	26147
1872-73	273823	236846	84533	103392	187925	85898	26538	22383	48921	20.6	31.3	15119	2244	17363	1973	13951	15924	33287

B. Saunders
Br Chor

'who look on it as an extra imposition, and very differently to what they would do if the amount 'was included in the ordinary land revenue. I would suggest the advisability of abolishing this cess. 'The amount of it need not be a dead loss to the State, either in the case of villages already settled 'or to be settled for the future. The incidence of this cess has always been taken into account in 'estimating the future revenue of a taluk under settlement, and the non-existence of this cess would 'be taken into account in fixing the revenue of taluks for settlement in the future."

It should be added that Colonel Anderson, though unconcerned in its original imposition, for he was absent from India when it was introduced, as explained above. shared the Chief Commissioner's views as to the inadvisability of hastily abandoning the cess, and that the opinion he has thus given has been formed after a full consideration of the difficulties attending (1) its general levy throughout the Province, and (2) its utilization, as a "Local Fund," for the direct benefit of those contributing to it, in a way to satisfy them that they really get some return for their contributions.

16. In the event of the abolition of the cess being carried out, the case of its levy in the taluks which have been already settled will require special consideration, but no difficulty is anticipated in dealing with it satisfactorily, as soon as the measures to be adopted in substitution of the separate collection of the cess as a "Local Fund" are decided on.

With regard to the as-yet unsettled taluks, the incidence of the cess would merge in the general assessment, which would be *protanto* raised consequent on its abolition; the existence of this impost having hitherto been taken into account in fixing the rates of assessment on the several classes of wet lands, which have been lowered by the amount of such incidence.

17. The Chief Commissioner is convinced of the great importance, with reference especially to the future arrangements for the government of the Province, of making suitable provision for the entire control of all tanks made over to the ryots for up-keep being vested in the local Revenue Officers, as stated in para 13 of this letter, and he would therefore strongly advocate, as the simplest and most convenient mode of giving effect to this view, that while the cess in its separate form is abolished, its equivalent as fixed by the Survey Department at the settlement of each taluk, or such portion of the same as may be assigned for the purpose with the sanction of Government, shall be set apart as an allotment to form a "District Irrigation Fund," under the control of the District Officer and to be administered by the District Local Fund Committee precisely in the same manner as the ordinary Local Funds of the District.

In the event of this measure being approved by His Excellency in Council, Colonel Meade would further recommend that the amount so assigned at the settlement of each taluk shall remain unaltered during the whole term of currency of the settlement.

18. With regard to the case (1) of the Malnad Taluks, in which there are but few artificial irrigation works, and (2) of the channels and larger tanks that remain under the charge of the Irrigation Department, the allotment for the District Irrigation Fund should, in the case of the former, be limited to such sum as is absolutely needed for the purpose for which it is granted; and, in that of the latter, a fair proportion, representing the equivalent of the cess that would be realized, if still in force, from the lands dependent on them, should be annually transferred to the Irrigation Department, as a grant-in-aid from the "District Irrigation Funds," for the maintenance of such channels and tanks.

19. The case of the inamdars of the Province, whose lands are subject equally with those of ryots, to the incidence of the Local Fund cesses, will require special orders, if the course recommended herein be adopted; but as they are already universally liable for the cess, there will be no difficulty in providing for their continuing to contribute an equitable amount towards its objects under the new arrangements.

20. In conclusion, I am directed to state that Colonel Meade has every reason to believe that the measures proposed herein will, if sanctioned, have the general concurrence of the most experienced Officers, European and Native, of the Province, and he has no hesitation in strongly recommending them for the favorable consideration of His Excellency in Council.

Names of the Officers who attended the Committee convened in March 1868 for the purpose of discussing questions in connection with the irrigation cess in Mysore.

L. B. Bowring, Esq., Commissioner.
Captain J. A. Campbell, Secretary.
Major Prescott, Survey Commissioner.
Captain Grant, Superintendent of Survey.
Major Sankey, Chief Engineer.
Captain Campbell, Assistant Engineer.
Major J. L. Pearse, Superintendent of Nundydroog Division.
Mr. Arunachalam Modaliar, Head Sheristadar.
Mr. Krishnaiengar, Deputy Supt. of Kolar.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, To the Chief Commissioner of Mysore—Foreign Department, Revenue, No. 210, R, dated Fort William, 27th August 1874.

In reply to your Officiating Secretary's letter No. 1777—42, R, dated 3rd June last, I am directed to state that the Honorable the President in Council sanctions your proposal that the irrigation cess hitherto levied on wet crop lands in Mysore shall be abolished, and that for it shall be substituted the arrangements recommended in your 17th and 18th paragraphs, on the understanding that a sufficient assignment will be made from the enhanced land revenue to cover the charges which the irrigation cess was designed to meet.

No. 4469—Rev. 297, dated Bangalore, 21st September 1874.

Order thereon.—Ordered, that a copy of the foregoing letter and of that to which it is a reply be forwarded to the Survey Commissioner with a request that he will submit for the Chief Commissioner's approval, at as early a date as possible, the amendment rendered necessary in the Survey guarantee under the head of "Local Funds" consequently on the adoption of the measure now sanctioned.

2. The amendment should state that the irrigation cess having been abolished as a separate levy, its incidence will hereafter merge in the ordinary assessment of wet lands, and that, at the settlement of each taluk, a lump sum equivalent, excepting in the case of the Malnad taluks, to the amount representing the cess that has so merged in the assessment, shall be set apart by the Settlement Officer from the annual revenue of the taluk to form the "District Irrigation Fund," which will be administered by the District Committee in the same way as the ordinary Local Fund.

In the case of the Malnad Taluks the sum to be so allotted will be limited to such portion of the actual equivalent of the cess as may be fairly needed for the purpose, in connection with the artificial works in the taluk, for which the maintenance of a District Irrigation Fund is proposed. The sum, whatever the amount, so allotted at the settlement will remain as the fixed allotment for this purpose during the currency of the settlement.

3. The course to be taken with regard to the irrigation cess now leviable in the taluks already settled will require special consideration, and the Survey Commissioner is requested to suggest the measures he would propose regarding it.

4. With respect to the case of inamdars and kayamgutta and jodidars, it may fairly be a question how the change now sanctioned should affect them. The principle has been already laid down that these classes shall pay local cesses precisely as ordinary ryots, and as the measure under consideration merely alters the mode of realizing and allotting the cess, it does not necessarily affect that principle or the rules heretofore in force for its application, so far as the said classes are concerned. The cess may therefore continue to be levied from these classes as heretofore, and its amount can be paid over to the District Irrigation Fund, if that course is deemed fitting.

5. The allotment made by the Settlement Officer will be deducted from the revenue of the taluk and transferred to the credit of the District Committee under the head of "District Irrigation Fund." The Chief Commissioner believes that, as the allotment is to be a lump sum, this can be arranged, without difficulty, by the District Officers in communication with the Deputy Accountant General.

6. On the receipt of the Survey Commissioner's reply, the requisite orders will be passed to give effect to the measure under consideration.

H. WELLESLEY,
Offg. Secretary.

To—The Survey and Settlement Commissioner.

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, 21st September 1874.

From the Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, To the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, Calcutta, No. 1777—R. 42, dated Bangalore, 3rd June 1874.

I am directed to submit, for the information and orders of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, a report on the levy, in connection with the survey settlement now in progress in the Province, of a local irrigation cess of one anna, on each rupee of assessment, on wet crop lands, which appears to the Chief Commissioner to require reconsideration, under the circumstances hereinafter set forth.

2. From the information Colonel Meade has been able to obtain regarding the origin of this cess it would seem that the necessity for imposing some such special levy had long been entertained, and that Mr. Bowring even contemplated the extension of its incidence to dry crop (or unirrigated) cultivation, on the ground that as the ryots generally were dependent on the due maintenance of the tank works of the Province for their water supply for ordinary use, quite irrespective of the purposes of irrigation to which these works were applied, it would be proper to require *all* land under cultivation to contribute its share towards such maintenance. It is stated that, under this view, Mr. Bowring at one time contemplated the imposition of a special cess for this purpose of two annas on each rupee of assessment on wet crop, and one anna similarly on that on dry crop lands throughout the Province.

3. Subsequently, the Survey Commissioner, Colonel Anderson, proposed that a cess of one anna should be levied on all wet crop lands only, to be applied to the systematic clearing out of the tanks, from the lands irrigated by which such cess in each case was realized, but the latter measure was thought to be impracticable, and the question appears to have remained in abeyance till the assembly of a Committee held at Bangalore, in March 1868, to consider Colonel Strachey's note on "Irrigation in Mysore" dated 22nd February 1867.

4. In para 2 of the memorandum that was drawn up of the proceedings of the Committee, of which a copy was forwarded to your Office with the letter *noted in the margin, it was proposed, under the head of "Local Funds," that "An additional anna in the rupee will be payable from all irrigated lands "and the amount thus realized will be devoted solely to the repair of tanks."

*No. 198—13, dated 15th April 1868.

The Committee further proposed to divide all the irrigation works of the Province into two classes, the reconstruction, improvement and maintenance of those in the 1st class, which should comprise all the larger and more important works, being entirely in the hands of the Department Public Works ; while, as regarded those in the 2nd class which should include all the minor and less important works it stated that,

"It fully recognized the expediency of transferring to ryots the obligation of maintaining the "numerous small tanks which exist in Mysore, and subsidiary works under channels, the existing "actual condition of tanks, not in thorough order, being considered for the present as the standard "up to which such tanks should be so maintained by the ryots."

5. In accordance with these suggestions, a special local irrigation cess was thereupon imposed, of one anna on each rupee of assessment on all wet crop lands in the settled taluks, due provision for its levy being subsequently made in the revised survey guarantee which was drawn up and published under Mr. Bowring's orders, by Notification No. 198, dated 9th February 1870, after the assembly of another special Committee to consider the question of, and to lay down rules regarding the management of the several classes of irrigation works in the Province.

6. The rules quoted in the margin were laid down in the revised guarantee, regarding (1) the obligations of the ryots in connection with the maintenance of irrigation works ; and (2) the imposition and utilization of the local irrigation cess ; and it will be seen that they provided, under the former head, for the maintenance and up-keep by the ryots concerned, of all the minor class of works not under the direct management of the Irrigation Department ; and under the latter, for the application of the proceeds of the irrigation cess to the repair, improvement, and reconstruction of such works, but not to their maintenance ; the cess realized, however, from the wet lands dependent on the larger class of works, the charge of which is retained by the Irrigation Department, being applicable to the maintenance of that class of works.

Section VI. It is imperative on the owners and occupiers of land lying under tanks and works, the property of Government other than those under the direct management of the Irrigation Department, to maintain the up-keep of such tanks and works after they have been brought up to standard. In case such up-keep shall not be duly maintained, it shall be competent to Government to maintain the up-keep of such tanks and works, and the cost of the same shall be rateably distributed amongst the ryots and inamdars according to the survey valuation of their respective holdings, and such amount shall be recovered as a regular revenue demand.

Local Funds.

Section XIV. On all wet crop lands an additional anna on each rupee shall be imposed, which shall be devoted exclusively to repairs, improvements and reconstruction of works of irrigation but not to maintenance, except (as) to tanks and works the charge of which is taken by the Irrigation Department.

7. The necessity that existed for framing some rules for the administration of the cess was brought to the Chief Commissioner's notice in 1872; and he then, for the first time, became aware that there was considerable difference of opinion regarding the necessity for the levy of the cess at all, and that much difficulty would be experienced in its general imposition throughout the Province, and in its administration in an efficient manner for the benefit of those contributing to it, as contemplated in the survey guarantee.

8. In the first place, it was urged that, as, under the provisions of the survey guarantee already quoted, the obligation of the future maintenance of all the minor class of works which form the great bulk of the irrigation works of the Province was imposed on the ryots, and the new tank scheme provides for the reconstruction and improvement of all such works and for their being brought up to a standard of security and efficiency at the cost of Government, there would be no objects of this nature to which the cess would be applied, as contemplated in Rule XIV of the survey guarantee.

9. It further appeared that a large portion of the wet crop cultivation as in the Malnad Taluks adjoining the Western Ghats and some other parts of the Province, was carried on from natural springs and without the aid of, or with but little aid, from artificial works, and that the cess could be utilized but little, or not at all, in such cases, and would probably be regarded by the ryots as an exaction without an object.

10. Lastly, as regarded the administration of the cess, there was an obvious difficulty in providing for the due utilization on each of the individual works, from the lands dependent on which it was levied, of the small sums that would be available in each case; and it was indeed not clear what could be done with it, so long as the work of bringing the works up to standard was carried out at the cost of Government, and their future maintenance thereat was imposed on the ryots without reference to the cess.

11. The Chief Commissioner had taken the opportunity of the presence at Bangalore of the Survey Commissioner and Superintendent, to hold a meeting of the principal Officers of the Administration at head-quarters, under his own presidency, to consider the questions connected with the utilization of the local funds of the Province, and he was much impressed with the arguments that were urged on the above points, by several Officers on the occasion, against the continued levy of the irrigation cess.

12. Looking, however, at the fact that the cess had been imposed after very full consideration by his predecessor, and that it would, on the completion of the settlement, realize upwards of two lacs in the aggregate annually, he did not feel justified in proposing its abolition, till he was satisfied, after further enquiry, that it could not be utilized, as had been contemplated by him in connection with, though as a separate branch of, the ordinary District Local Funds, or under some other arrangement that would admit of its being turned to account with advantage to the State and the people, for the purpose for which it had been introduced.

13. On this latter point, it had for some time appeared to Colonel Meade that the only mode of turning the proceeds of the cess to proper account was to place its administration wholly in the hands of the local Revenue Officers, to enable them to maintain an adequate permanent establishment including, if necessary, a District Irrigation Engineer (1) for the systematic and constant inspection of all the class of tanks brought up to standard and made over to the ryots for up-keep; and (2) for the execution of such repairs and improvements thereto, as might from time to time be necessary, but which the ryots could not be expected to carry out. The proceeds of the cess would, doubtless, in due time provide fully for the above purposes, and its efficient administration through District Committees, as proposed *in the case of the ordinary local funds, would, it was hoped, meet the future requirements of this most important class of works and relieve the Irrigation Department altogether from the necessity of interference of any sort with them hereafter, except, possibly, in some special instance in which it might be found advisable to consult it.

*In No. 6434—189, dated 13th February 1873 to Foreign Department.

14. The extension of the settlement to the Malnad Taluks, in which, as already explained, the wet cultivation is mostly carried on from natural springs, has rendered it now necessary to deal with this question without further delay, and after a full consideration of all the circumstances connected with the levy of the cess, and the difficulties that will attend its satisfactory administration, if such levy is continued in its present form, Colonel Meade has come to the conclusion that it is his duty to recommend its abolition and to endeavour to devise some other means of providing for the object for which it was imposed.

15. This opinion is concurred in by the Settlement Commissioner, who, in a recent memorandum on local cesses in Mysore, remarks that—"Constant discussion and difficulty occur regarding the levy of 'the irrigation cess, which is beyond all doubt the cause of much dissatisfaction among the people,